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SUMMARY

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Japan

PRODUCTION OF BAMBOO AND BAMBOO PULP : ITS IMPORTANCE IN THE SOUTH-EAST ASIA

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PRODUCTION OF BAMBOO AND BAMBOO PULP
- Its Importance in the South-East Asia -

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SUMMARY

1. At a time when pulp resources are running short throughout the world, bamboo, of which the cultivability is exceedingly high, can be said to be a superior source of pulp - but that now it is left as sleeping resource in an abundant quantity.
2. Although bamboo is a plant of very high increment, the management science of bamboo forest is still not developed enough and nothing is done scientifically or economically in its plantation and felling.
3. The useful bamboos for pulp of Japan come under the category of Phyllostachys. Where these kinds of bamboos are concerned, the bamboo forest management science has been brought up to a complete stage. The useful bamboos in South-East Asia such as Bambusa, Oxythenanthera, Schizostachyum, Dendrocalamus, Gigantochloa, Melocanna etc. differ more or less from Japanese Phyllostachys in physiology and usefulness, but the theory of bamboo forest management science derived from the Phyllostachys is applicable tothose bamboos in South-East Asia above referred to.
4. However, it should be remembered that viewed from the management point of view of bamboo forest, there are still many issues left for further investigation in making bamboos as the source for pulp in South-East Asia.
5. Regarding the bamboo pulp industry, there has been criticism even among specialists not only from the point of its raw material but also from such as its quality, use, cost. Therefore seeking the best and adequate pulping process for bamboo, we have carried out fundamental investigations on the physical and chemical properties of bamboo as well as on the manufacturing processes for its pulp, and also we have conducted comparative investigations and researches with wood pulp.
6. Parallel with our fundamental investigations and in concert with the factory in operation, our allout efforts have been incessantly poured into showing the characteristics of bamboo pulp and paper manufacturing.
7. As a result, we have discovered the fact that bamboo pulp industry is not disadvantageous in the least as compared with that of wood pulp and that it is rather more favourable from various points.
8. Bamboo in South-East Asia as raw material for paper pulp with a view to meeting the self-supplying policy will play an important role.
9. It is our firm belief in this industry that it will make a great contribution not only to the world pulp market but also to the prosperity of each nation there.

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